

[8 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Mahavir Gram Kalyan Yojana Scheme

1958. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to launch a nodal scheme called "Mahavir Gram Kalyan Yojana" in each district of the country to mark the 2600th birth anniversary of Lord Mahavir;

(b) if so, the broad features of the scheme detailing *inter-alia* the objectives, total expenditure involved funding/financing nodal agency for selection of villages, co-ordination, direction etc.;

(c) whether the State Governments are also proposed to be involved in the implementation of the scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and-

(e) if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) to (e) The National Committee for celebration of 2600 years of Tirthankara Mahaviras Janma Kalyanak, in its meeting held under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 9th December, 2000 has decided to adopt one village in each district of the country for all round improvement in key areas such as access roads, safe drinking water, health care, sanitation facilities and education facilities. To implement the decision, a scheme, Mahavir Gram Kalyan Yojana, is under the process in the Government.